



# Acronyms, Abbreviations and Definitions

## **A.1 Acronyms and Abbreviations**

Many names, titles, programs, organizations, legislative acts, measurements and activities are abbreviated to reduce the volume of words and to simplify communications. A few of the abbreviations and acronyms used in the *Weber River Basin Plan* are listed below.

### **A.1.1 State and Local Agencies and Organizations**

CEM	Division of Comprehensive Emergency Management
DWRi	Division of Water Rights
PVWS	Pine View Water System
SBSID	Snyderville Basin Sewer Improvement District
SLCWCD	Salt Lake County Water Conservancy District
SWDC	Summit Water Distribution Company
USU	Utah State University
WBWCD	Weber Basin Water Conservancy District
WBWQC	Weber Basin Water Quality Council
WID	Water Improvement District

### **A.1.2 Federal Agencies**

BLM	Bureau of Land Management
COE	Corps of Engineers
DDO	Defense Depot of Ogden
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIA	Federal Insurance Administration
FSA	Farm Service Agency
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service
HAFB	Hill Air Force Base
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WCNF	Wasatch-Cache National Forest

### **A.1.3 Programs/Acts**

ACP	Agricultural Conservation Program
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program
CWA	Clean Water Act

DWSPR	Drinking Water Source Protection Rule
ECP	Emergency Conservation Program
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FWPCA	Federal Water Pollution Control Act
NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
RC&D	Resource Conservation and Development
SCORP	State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
UPDES	Utah Pollution Discharge Elimination System
USDWA	Utah Safe Drinking Water Act
UWPCA	Utah Water Pollution Control Act
WPCA	Water Pollution Control Act
WQA	Water Quality Act

#### **A.1.4 Measurements**

cfs	Cubic Feet Per Second
ft	Feet
GPCD	Gallons Per Capita Day
gpm	Gallons Per Minute
hr	Hour
kw	Kilowatt
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
mg/l	Milligrams Per Liter
SMCL	Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level

#### **A.1.5 Miscellaneous**

AWCP	Annual Water Conservation Plan
EAP	Emergency Action Plan
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
ESGWA	East Shore Groundwater Aquifer
FIRE	Finance, Insurance and Real Estate
M&I	Municipal and Industrial
NPS	Non-Point Source
NPSMP	Non-Point Source Management Plan
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle
SDCO	State Disaster Coordination Officer
TCPU	Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities
UPED	Utah Process Economic and Demographic
WFCM	Wasatch Front Water Demand/Supply Computer Model

## **A.2 Water Resources Definitions**

Many terms used in the water business have different meanings depending on the source, and are sometimes confusing. Some words are used interchangeably. A few commonly used water terms are defined for use in this document.

### **A.2.1 Water Use Terms**

Water is often said to be "used" when it is diverted, withdrawn, depleted or consumed. But it is also "used" in place for such things as fish and wildlife habitat, recreation and hydropower production.

**Cropland Irrigation Use** - Water used for irrigation of cropland. Residential lawn and garden uses are not included.

**Residential Use** - Water used for residential cooking; drinking; washing clothes; miscellaneous cleaning; personal grooming and sanitation; irrigation of lawns, gardens and landscapes; and washing automobiles, driveways and other outside facilities.

**Commercial Use** - Uses normally associated with small business operations which may include drinking water, food preparation, personal sanitation, facility cleaning and maintenance, and irrigation of landscapes.

**Institutional Use** - Uses normally associated with general operation of various public agencies and institutions including drinking water; personal sanitation; facility cleaning and maintenance; and irrigation of parks, cemeteries, playgrounds, recreational areas and other facilities.

**Industrial Use** - Use associated with the manufacturing or assembly of products which may include the same basic uses as commercial business. However, the volume of water used by industrial businesses can be considerably greater than water use by commercial businesses.

**Municipal and Industrial (M&I) Use** - This term is commonly used to include residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial uses. It is sometimes used interchangeably with the term "public water use."

**Private-Domestic Use** - Includes water from private wells or springs for use in individual homes, usually in rural areas not accessible to public water supply systems.

**Diversion** - Water diverted from supply sources such as streams, lakes, reservoirs, springs or wells for a variety of uses including cropland irrigation and residential, commercial, institutional and industrial purposes. The terms diversion and withdrawal are often used interchangeably.

**Withdrawal** - Water withdrawn from supply sources such as lakes, streams, reservoirs, springs or groundwater. This term is normally used in association with groundwater withdrawal.

**Depletion** - Water lost or made unavailable for return to a given designated area, river system or basin. It is intended to represent the net loss to a system. The terms consumption and depletion are often used interchangeably, but they are not the same. For example, water exported from a basin is a loss or depletion to that system as it is not consumed within the basin. Water diverted to irrigated crops in a given system, but not returned for later use, is depletion. Precipitation that falls on irrigated crops is not considered a part of the supply like surface water and groundwater diversions. For this reason, precipitation falling on and consumed by irrigated crops is not considered as being a depletion to the system.

**Consumptive Use** - Consumption of water for residential, commercial, institutional, industrial, agricultural, power generation and recreational purposes. Naturally occurring vegetation and wildlife also consumptively use water. Water consumed is not available for other uses within the system.

### **A.2.2 Water Supply Terms**

Water is supplied by a variety of systems for many uses. Most water supply systems are owned by an irrigation company or a municipality, but in some cases the owner/operator is a private company, or is a state or federal agency. Thus, a "public" water supply may be either publicly or privately owned. Also, systems may supply treated or untreated water.

**Public Water Supply** - Includes culinary water supplied by either privately or publicly owned community systems which serve at least 15 service connections or 25 individuals at least 60 days per year. Water from public supplies may be used for residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial purposes, including irrigation of publicly and privately owned open areas.

**Culinary Water Supply** - Water meeting all applicable safe drinking water requirements for residential, commercial and institutional uses. This is also known as potable water.

**Municipal Water Supply** - A supply that provides culinary grade water for residential, commercial, institutional and light industrial uses. The terms municipal, community and city are often used interchangeably.

**Secondary Water Supply** - Pressurized or open ditch water supplies of untreated water for irrigation of privately or publicly owned lawns, gardens, parks, cemeteries, golf courses and other open areas. These are sometimes called "dual" water systems. They provide water in addition to the culinary supply.

### **A.2.3 Groundwater Terms**

**Aquifer** - A saturated body of rock or soil which will yield water to wells or springs

**Groundwater** - Water which is contained in the saturated portions of soil or rock beneath the land surface. Excludes "soil moisture" which refers to water held by capillary action in the upper unsaturated zones of soil or rock.

**Mining** - Long-term overdraft of groundwater in excess of recharge.

**Phreatophyte** - A "groundwater plant." A plant species which extends its roots to the saturated zone under shallow water table conditions and transpires groundwater. These plants are high water users and include such species as tamarisk, greasewood, willows and cattails.

**Recharge** - Water added to the groundwater reservoir or the process of adding water to the groundwater reservoir. Commonly occurs by infiltration of surface water into subsurface storage from precipitation, streamflow or irrigation.

**Recoverable Reserves** - The amount of water which could be reasonably recovered from the groundwater reservoir with existing technology. Recovery assumes mining, and may be associated with economic, environmental or social costs. It is often estimated as a percent of the total water in storage, or as the water which could be produced by dewatering an upper layer of aquifer or a given thickness, or by reducing aquifer pressure by some amount.

**Safe Yield** - In general, it indicates the amount of water which can be withdrawn from an aquifer on a long-term basis without serious quality, environmental or social consequences, or seriously depleting the reservoir.

**Total Water in Storage** - A volume of water derived by estimating the total volume of saturated aquifer and multiplying by the porosity (intergranular space containing water).

#### **A.2.4 Other Water Terms**

Some water terms are peculiar to the water industry. These are briefly defined in order to better understand the information presented.

**Annual Water Yield** - The statistical mean value for the annual volume of water yielded from the basin over the water years of record or the base period.

**Call** - The ability to order a quantity or flow of water at a given time and for a given period of time.

**Carriage Water** - Water needed for hydraulic operation of a delivery system.

**Drinking Water** - Water used or available for use as a culinary supply. The quality is typically the highest available in the locality.

**Export Water** - A man-made diversion of water from a river system or basin other than by the natural outflow of streams, rivers and groundwater. This is sometimes called a trans-basin diversion.

**Instream Flow** - Water flow maintained in a stream for the preservation and propagation of habitat and for aesthetic values.

**Open Water Areas** - Includes lakes, ponds, reservoirs, streams and other areas completely or partially inundated.

**Potable** - Water suitable for drinking or cooking purposes from both health and aesthetic considerations. The terms culinary and potable are often used interchangeably.

**Reuse** - The reclamation of water diverted from a wastewater conveyance system. The reuse can be either direct or indirect and may or may not be treated to bring it to acceptable standards. This water is recovered from municipal and industrial discharges. Irrigation runoff and hydroelectric power generation return flows are not included.

**Riparian Areas** - Land areas adjacent to rivers, streams, springs, bogs, lakes and ponds. They are ecosystems composed of plant and animal species highly dependent on water.

**Watershed** - The total area of land above a given point on a waterway that contributes runoff water to the flow at that point; a drainage basin or a major subdivision of a drainage basin.

**Wetlands** - Wetlands are open water areas surrounded by water loving vegetation. They also include areas where vegetation is associated with wet and/or high water table conditions.